



10/19/2016

Senate Regulatory Reform Committee
Lansing, MI 48909

RE: HB 4637, 4639, 4640, 4641, SB 392

Dear Committee Members,

On behalf the Michigan Environmental Council, a coalition of 70 environmental, conservation and faith-based organizations located across Michigan, we write to you in support of legislation that will positively impact transportation options available to residents. Our support of this legislation is in response to our coalition's priority of supporting transportation solutions that would better Michigan's environment, while also supporting the growing new economy.

MEC supports transportation innovations that offer a relief to our environment and the people of Michigan. Public transportation, pedestrian and bicyclist infrastructures and now ride-sharing options are all solutions have proven to be effective and environmentally sound. We support this growing evolution of ridesharing, provided by Transportation Network Companies (TNCs).

TNC's, such as Lyft and Uber provide millions of people across the nation with options of ride-sharing, a concept that helps not only the environment but is an affordable and reliable option for many. Since the introduction of TNC's, we've seen a plateau in the in the vehicle miles traveled (VMT) in the U.S., especially within the Millennial age group. TNC's have also opened up doors for the disabled and special needs individuals in places where public transit is lacking and in bridging the gap between mass transit and their residence.

The Michigan legislature has a chance to show Michiganders that our state continues to be the leader in mobility and that we embrace new technologies as well as state economic growth. TNC's such as Lyft and Uber are a welcome addition to Michigan communities. Common sense reforms by the legislature will provide a regulatory framework that supports innovation and ensures safely and equity among transpiration providers.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Sean Hammond".

Sean Hammond
Deputy Policy Director